

DISTRICT OF OREGON, ss:

AFFIDAVIT OF KEVIN STRAUSS

**Affidavit in Support of a Criminal Complaint and Arrest Warrant**

I, Kevin Strauss, being duly sworn, do hereby depose and state as follows:

**Introduction and Agent Background**

1. I am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and have been for 16 years. I am trained in investigating a wide variety of violations of federal criminal law. I am currently assigned to the FBI Portland Division Violent Crimes squad, where I have investigated Crimes Against Children, Bank Robbery, Kidnapping, Assault on Federal Employees, and Crime Aboard Aircraft. I am part of the Human Trafficking Task Force which also includes other FBI Special Agents and Task Force Officers. This task force is an intelligence-driven, proactive, multi-agency investigative initiative to combat the proliferation of various forms of human trafficking to include child exploitation and trafficking facilitated by an online computer.

2. I submit this affidavit in support of a criminal complaint and arrest warrant for Jesse Herman BATES, for Civil Disorder in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 231(a)(3). As set forth below, there is probable cause to believe, and I do believe, that BATES fired an object from a slingshot at a firefighter for the intended purpose of obstructing, impeding, or interfering in a violent manner with such firefighter, that he did so knowingly and willfully, and that he did so during a civil disorder that adversely affected interstate commerce.

**Applicable Law**

4. Title 18 U.S.C. § 231(a)(3) provides that “whoever commits or attempts to commit any act to obstruct, impede, or interfere with any fireman or law enforcement officer lawfully engaged in the lawful performance of his official duties incident to and during the commission of a civil disorder which in any way or degree obstructs, delays, or adversely affects

commerce or the movement of any article or commodity in commerce ... shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.” Title 18 U.S.C. § 231 provides that “[t]he term ‘civil disorder’ means any public disturbance involving acts of violence by assemblages of three or more persons, which causes an immediate danger of or results in damage or injury to the property or person of any other individual.”

**Statement of Probable Cause**

5. At approximately 2:00 a.m. on July 13, 2020, a firefighter medic (FFM) was working with a crew of firefighters to put out a fire burning in the middle of the intersection of SW 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and SW Main Street in downtown Portland, Oregon, which blocked traffic. An estimated crowd of 300 people were in the immediate area, some of whom were assaulting police officers and committing acts of vandalism and property damage. The FFM, who was wearing a grey uniform that clearly displayed a large “medic” patch, was walking across the street to brief his team when he was shot in the chest with a round metal ball bearing. The FFM said the shot came from a protester armed with a “wrist rocket” style slingshot. A Multnomah County Sheriff’s Deputy saw the suspect on camera and identified BATES as the slingshot shooter. BATES was also identified by the clothing he wore that early morning: black and white Adidas shoes, a large white logo on his back, and white coloring on the knees of his pants.

6. At approximately 3:50 a.m., law enforcement officers spotted BATES near a white tent located on Lownsdale Square, between SW 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and SW Salmon Street and Main Street. BATES was holding a crowbar, and when officers told him he was under arrest, BATES ran with the crowbar in hand. After receiving a less than lethal munition to his backside, BATES dropped the crowbar and was taken into custody.

**Conclusion**

7. Based on the foregoing, I have probable cause to believe, and I do believe, that Jesse Herman BATES intentionally obstructed, impeded, and interfered with a firefighter who was engaged in the lawful performance of his duties when Bates struck him with a metal ball bearing; moreover, all of these actions took place during a civil disorder that adversely affected interstate commerce in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 231(a)(3). I therefore request that the Court issue a criminal complaint and arrest warrant for Jesse Herman BATES.

8. Prior to being submitted to the Court, this affidavit, the accompanying complaint and the arrest warrant were all reviewed by Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) Kelly A. Zusman, and AUSA Zusman advised me that in her opinion the affidavit and complaint are legally and factually sufficient to establish probable cause to support the issuance of the requested criminal complaint and arrest warrant.

**Request for Sealing**

9. It is respectfully requested that the Court issue an order sealing, until further order of the Court, all papers submitted in support of the requested criminal complaint and arrest warrant. I believe that sealing these documents is necessary because the information to be seized

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is relevant to an ongoing investigation, and any disclosure of the information at this time is likely to seriously jeopardize the ongoing investigation. Premature disclosure of the affidavit, the criminal complaint, and the arrest warrant may adversely affect the integrity of the investigation

(By Phone)

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KEVIN STRAUSS

Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subscribed and sworn in accordance with the requirements of FED. R. CRIM. P. 4.1 by  
telephone at 11:23 a.m./~~p.m.~~ on 25th day of August 2020.

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HONORABLE YOLEEE YIM YOU

United States Magistrate Judge